

Serial No. 09/675,825

Art Unit 1761

Attorney's Docket 98/080 NUT

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- (b) an edible acid component present in an amount suitable to maintain the pH of the beverage in the range of from about 3 up to less than about 6;
 - (c) at least one high intensity peptide sweetener; and
 - (d) a water-soluble oligosaccharide fiber which undergoes at least partial hydrolysis within about 4 weeks at ambient conditions within the aforesaid pH range and the hydrolyzed units of which sweeten said beverage; and which oligosaccharide is selected from the group consisting of inulins, oligofructose and fructans.
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B²

14. (Twice amended) An acidified beverage comprising:

- (a) water;
 - (b) a flavor component selected from the group consisting of tea flavor and cola flavor;
 - (c) an edible acid component present in an amount suitable to maintain the pH of the beverage in the range of from about 3 to about 4;
 - (d) at least one high intensity sweetener composition;
 - (e) a water-soluble oligosaccharide fiber selected from the group consisting of inulins, oligofructose and fructans, said inulins, oligofructose and fructans having a caloric value of less than about 5Kcal/g.
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REMARKS

The due date for filing a response to this Office Action was September 6, 2002. A three months extension of time is filed simultaneously herewith extending the due date to 6 December, 2002.

Claim 15 remained rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph as improperly extending the limitations of claim 14 from which it depends. "Oligofructose" is not one of the recited options in part (c) of claim 14.

Claim 14 has been amended to include "oligofructose" in the recited options in part (c).